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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and illustrations for publication will have reflected on the fact that they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

tion, if about the time the law went into effect it was to be discovered that the national bank system had been disrupted by wholesale surrenders of Federal charters.  
The point cannot be too much emphasized that any banking bill in order to be successful must commend itself to the banks. If Pujols is allowed to poison banking legislation it is not a rash conjecture that there will be a very weak national banking system to which to apply the new law.

**Why This Delay?**

The news despatches from Binghamton inform us that George F. Roach, Deputy State Fire Marshal, "visited half a dozen buildings in the city today, including two theatres, and notified the owners that if steps were not taken within twenty-four hours to comply with recommendations designed to make them more safe he would order the places closed."

This is highly satisfactory. It reveals a stern determination on the part of the State Fire Marshal and his aids to contribute all that lies within their power to safeguard the public from the danger of fire.

But why were these warnings issued on July 24? Why were they not put out on July 20, or May 28, or some other date?

Can it be possible that this State agency requires a disaster killing half a hundred persons to call it into activity? We find nothing in the law creating the office of State Fire Marshal to justify this belief; yet if such is not the case, why were these peremptory orders delayed until yesterday?

**Mr. Wilson's Advisers as to Mexico.**

In the Washington despatches much is heard about President Wilson and "his advisers," who are committing his Administration to a policy in regard to Mexico undoubtedly dictated by a high wisdom which, like much of that illustrious virtue, may seem to be a little hard for common folks to find out.

Who are these "advisers"? Certainly they are not what the Hon. NORMAN HAPGOOD used to call the President's "constitutional advisers," under the impression that the collection of head clerks, called loosely "the Cabinet," was created by that Constitution which has been recalled by moral magnificence of the Hapgood type and is good to break, anyway.

In that creature of statutes, and for the last generation of the last of votes, called "the Cabinet" because it is not, there is a titular Secretary of State whose notions of Mexico must be as valuable as his old opinions of its dollars. The titular Secretary of State is on the road, putting the dollar above and to the account of one most worthy man.

**No Place for Pujols.**

If the Democrats in power at Washington desire to establish an improved national banking and currency system the bill which Congress will pass for the purpose must attract bankers, not repel them. The way to obtain the necessary cooperation from the banking community is certainly not through processes of compulsion. Even as originally introduced the Administration banking bill included a sufficient element of coercion to have a tendency to provoke banking distrust. The danger of going too far in this direction is that the national banks may be driven to take out State charters.

As creatures of the Federal law the national banks cannot range themselves in opposition to banking legislation. The managers of these institutions may advise and counsel with the lawmakers, but in the end they will be left to the choice of accepting the revised statutes and staying in the national system or seeking refuge under the State laws.

Undoubtedly resort cannot be had to State charters without incurring some loss, but this might come to be regarded as a cheap price to pay for the preservation of reasonable freedom of action from an intolerable superfluity of governmental or political control. As the Administration banking bill stood when it made its first appearance it was radical enough, judging from the opinions which have since been expressed about it. The action of the Government bond market, in which the 2 per cent. clerkly held to secure bank note circulation and Government deposits, have declined five points since the bill was introduced, suggests the wisdom and desirability of considering banking sentiment in dealing with the country's financial machinery.

Nothing is more likely to cause widespread repulsion among the national bankers than amendment of the banking bill in the direction of making it more radical politically. Especially is this true of the introduction of Pujols into the measure. Already burdened with an unwholesome content of Bryanism, it would be fatal to the success of the bill to load it down with the unbalanced remnants of last year's "money trust" inquiry. Yet that is what is now threatened by the developments in the House Banking and Currency Committee, which has been deliberating the measure.

Until this week common sense dominated the counsels of the committee. Changes made in the bill improved it in the main and the conservatism which must obtain in matters of finance seemed to command a due amount of regard. Responding, however, to the excitations of the prime Congressional mover in the hunt for the "money trust" shark, enough members of the committee have broken away from conservative inclinations to menace the prospects of the bill as well as to endanger the interests of the country.

There is great need of a better banking and currency system than that which exists. There is a splendid opportunity to provide it. But it would be folly to enact a law for the reorganization of the national banks, with provision for including State institu-

tions, if about the time the law went into effect it was to be discovered that the national bank system had been disrupted by wholesale surrenders of Federal charters.  
The point cannot be too much emphasized that any banking bill in order to be successful must commend itself to the banks. If Pujols is allowed to poison banking legislation it is not a rash conjecture that there will be a very weak national banking system to which to apply the new law.

**Ample Warning for the State.**

One of the unnecessary problems the State has brought upon itself involves the preservation of discipline and order among the convicts in Sing Sing during the agitation now in progress for their better housing. That a strong feeling of indignation has been aroused over their mistreatment is as well known inside the walls of the prison as outside. This knowledge, possessing men ignorant and untutored, cannot have any other effect than to make them restive and difficult to control.

This is not a new situation. The men responsible for the restraint of Sing Sing's population have been perfectly well aware of the dangerous conditions that have existed there, not for a few weeks, but for months. Before the present acute public dissatisfaction with the prison arose, the warden and the keepers were prepared for contingencies, and they are now facing conditions not different from that merely worse than those with which they are familiar.

That the fires that have contributed unusual excitement to life in Sing Sing this week were set by convicts is the belief of not a few persons. It may well be based in fact. They are a bad lot, and the State has done nothing to make them better. Such conduct, however, can only add to the misery of their lot, for their chance of gaining even temporary freedom is reduced to zero through the ample warning the authorities have had of a possible attempt at jail delivery.

**Prospects of the Deer Season.**

Reports from the Adirondacks show that the deer are fat and vigorous, the bucks with unusually well developed antlers, their good condition promising splendid sport this fall for city hunters.

In addition to this the guides are in better shape than ever before, having been well nourished since the last hunting season. They seem splendidly prepared, their physical condition offers every inducement to rifle range experts and other experts in the art of tracking and shooting.

Altogether most profitable and satisfactory autumn sport is to be expected in northern New York.

A plan to have Congressmen vote by electric signals instead of shouting "aye" or "no" was seriously considered today by the House Rules Committee. Washington despatch.

What some members of Congress need is an effective block system.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the Eighth avenue drug clerk who has just been convicted of selling heroin to twelve youths will get a sentence equal to the enormity of his crime. These boys have been reduced to physical and moral wrecks by the use of heroin, obtained by a secret code from BERKUT, the clerk. Heroin is one of the most insidious drugs known unless used under the careful direction of a physician. Probation Officer F. C. HENNING of the House of Refuge is to be congratulated upon having run down this culprit. Men who engage in such nefarious traffic, no matter whether they be mercenary fiends or moral perverts, should receive the full penalty of the law. Their low practice, aside from being abominable, is a hidden source of danger to the community, for it is next to impossible to cure their victims.

Colonel GULLAGH succeeds every day in evoking a convincing denial of some detail of his "revelations."

**"Mainlop" May Send the Money.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Tell old "Mainlop" to send me that \$500. Here's the evidence. It's a standard shark story, reliable, well authenticated and familiar to every old time sailor who will swear to the truth of it.

The ship's carpenter and a sailor died aboard the same ship and were buried in the same coffin. The carpenter was weighted with an old grindstone. A few days later a large shark was caught by another ship and upon being cut open the sailor was found turning the grindstone upon which the carpenter was sharpening a knife preparatory to carving his way to liberty.

As evidence of the truth of this story I can furnish a piece of the grindstone now in the possession of my grandfather and a piece of the hammock as well.

NEW YORK, July 24. VERITAS SALIS.

**The Sacred Glove.**

When America has a past that is a past worthy of the name, when our children's children are sufficiently aristocratic to fancy that their grandfathers were "fans" original fans, the real article, like Medford rum, or Pilgrim fathers who actually slept on the rock, the test question that will be put to these proud descendants of ours will be: "Did your grandfathers see HONUS WAGNER play?"

There is no doubt about it. Has not the Carnegie Museum asked for his palmless glove when he retires from the diamond? A Pittsburgh despatch states that Dr. W. J. HOLLAND, director of the museum, announced that it was the desire of the institution to secure from WAGNER all his baseball accoutrements. But it is the sacred glove that should be revered. "Shake the hand that shook the hand that shook the hand of O'HOUILLIN!"  
The Sir Walter Scott of to-morrow will write of no deeds of tireless Crusades, his MAMMON will be named

**TWO BILLS.**

One Lived Two Hours, the Other Barely Thought to Have Lived Two Long.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: It is the irony of fate that Bill Pratt could not have lived longer than he did. He lived to have been able to live his whole useful life upon something less than \$12,000 a year, and he was not obliged to lay his tired head on the Chautauque mat at any moment of his long career. Spartan simplicity, helped by the sufficient sawbuck, enabled him to carve his name high up on the obelisk, where it is ignored only by the perverely ignorant and such other folk as the true hero did not have to lavish the fruit of the vine at 50 cents a quart upon thirsty diplomats; but his simple habits might have taught economics enabling him to bring the office within his grasp. He possessed the one quality now deemed essential to the position: he knew every word in the dictionary and outside of it, and from those lips this never to be forgotten the amount of eloquence that would have swamped the faltering parts of speech of our present Premier 16 to 1.

Poor Bill Pratt! He lived, and also died, before his time. He could not have gone throughout the land teaching his simple philosophy to wondering millions under a pay of \$12,000 a year from the Government have left to this country a great monument to his long career, anchored in a sea of words like an island, which would have made the present regime look like a straw hat in the middle of Lake Chaubunungamung.

It is possible that the head of the Administration realized just what was needed to dispel this long dream of the Bryanites? If so, it was a stroke of pure genius. Four months is a short time for a man to learn to relay races, but any germ left will be gone by fall, when the last handkerchief has fluttered in the last Chautauque salute.

NEW YORK, July 24. A. P. P.

**AN ANCIENT INIQUITY.**

How Sing Sing Was Officially Described Twenty-five Years Ago.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The shape of the empire State in permitting disgraceful conditions at Sing Sing is all the greater because these were bitterly condemned by an official commission more than a quarter of a century ago.

A Prison Labor Reform bill was introduced by the Legislature reported February 8, 1887, in part:

Abuses at Sing Sing. A crying evil has for years existed in the Sing Sing prison in the overcrowded condition which compelled an average of 400 cells to be occupied by more than 500 prisoners. The most vicious and loathsome practices arise, to the destruction and demoralization of health, both physical and mental, as well as of morals.

The justice cannot be too sharply condemned. In this prison such a result became necessary from contracting the labor, for a term of years of more convicts than there were cells. (N. Y. Senate Documents, Vol. 2, 1887, p. 10th session. Document No. 34, page 18.)

The report is dated February 8, 1887. The commissioners were William Bookstaver, George Blair and Enos W. Barnes. NEW YORK, July 24.

**SONGS OF THE BLACK MAN.**

How the Negro Displays His Fondness for Melody.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: In regard to Afro-American and our songs and music I wish to say that "Sawannee River" is no more characteristic of the negro than "Dixie" is typical of a Fiji Islander. John Edgar Hoover depicts the life of the negro because many of our folk believe in deathly visions. "Poor Old Ned" is another favorite of ours, the first verse running thus:

Lay down de shovel and de hoe,  
Put up de spade and de hoe;  
Dar no more work for poor old Ned,  
Cause he gone wah de good darlies go.

Most white folks seem to think that the banjo is the typical musical instrument of black folks of the South. It is used most by whites and is known as the mountebank. The men of this type usually wear a felt hat with four creases, which indicate "work I will not." He sings such songs as "Railroad Bill." The banjo all but lost to the negro and played "Can't Get a Letter From Down the Road."

The Jewharp is used by the cornfield gentleman of color. The shtar-ba-ba, or shtar-ba-ba, is a melody of negro men. Ethiopian dancings are somewhat like Spanish maids in their famous soft music and love songs.

If you wish to hear plantation melodies with variations sung with natural harmony go to the important cities and towns of the South and get in touch with those sons of Ham who go about nights serenading. Oftentimes when Miss Sallie and her husband are in the moonlight, inhaling the fragrance of the honeysuckle in the stillness of the night, as the moon sends down its soft gray light, they'll be surprised to hear a sudden sound of voices ring out on the night. "Oh, darlies, won't you meet me there where the moonlight seems to glitter."

But if you wish to hear real soul stirring songs and melodies, go to the meetings and hear them sing "Little David. Play on Your Harp." This is the verse:

Little David, play on your harp, halloo, halloo.  
Little David, play on your harp, halloo, halloo.  
D for David and G for Goliath.  
D for David and G for Goliath.  
Little David, play on your harp, halloo, halloo.

NEW YORK, July 24. HENRY ALLEN.

**Once More the Muse Plants Sacred Feet on the Birthplace of Josephus Daniels.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: From time to time THE SUN mentions Blowing Rock, N. C. Encouraged by this fact, I dare to hope that you will print these lines in your issue of tomorrow.

O sigh with me for the dreadful fate  
Of poor Mr. Bryan, our statesman great,  
Who lives in constant, horrible fear  
Of starving to death on twelve thousand a year.

Like the "niggers" down in the Sunny South,  
This poor man lives from hand to mouth,  
And pants for a brain when he gets to bed,  
As to what will get to-morrow's bread.

So, if to ward off sheer starvation  
He chooses to lecture his vacation,  
Remember, he does what he does in fear  
Of starving to death on twelve thousand a year.

A FRIEND OF NERBY STATEMENT.  
BLOWING ROCK, N. C., July 22.

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot!  
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: "Swing Low" is the most popular song in the negro mind. I agree with him, but why the motor attachment? I can enjoy rest in a hammock provided it's a couch hammock. I have covered my mind with a mosquito netting and have a piece of cord on the porch railing to pull myself to and fro until I fall asleep; then I have no cause to worry about mosquitoes.

NEW YORK, July 24. LES STEPHENS.

**AMERICANS.**

They Eat Too Fast, They Never Walk Result, They Sleep Little.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I should like to say a word to "Afflicted," who later appeared in THE SUN. It would be difficult to advise acceptably without knowing the habits of your correspondent, but one thing is certain—there is a cause for every effect.

There are many causes that could bring about "Afflicted's" condition. Americans will eat rapidly, and then (oh, fatal habit) rise at once from the table and proceed to work or play. Huggins, the shrewd man who knows that a rest at the table after eating lengthens his days in the land.

Also, who walks any more? The five mile walk of the English, which is thought necessary to keep a man in condition is practically unknown here. One who walks in this country has indeed an empty pocket and no friend to borrow from, and he takes his toll—namely, who can "snatch it?"

Why have we not more verandas in New York? Did "Afflicted" ever sleep out of doors? Just try it, it's wonderful. If "Afflicted" will build a veranda, put a second story and put a few shrubs around it and throw down a bearskin or sheepskin and anything else for covering, will he sleep? Just try it. Why the shrubs? Isn't the amount of the amount of earth? Ivy will be green all the year. You can make a little wilderness of green things in a small space.

And all this isn't nonsense. Who lent him the lights and the road and the rush of commerce and all that goes with it, and would not like again to have the peace and restfulness that he knew as a child?  
L. M. MORGAN, WILSON.  
LAKE MAHOPE, July 23.

**PRIDE FOR THE SUN.**

Superiority of Its Reports of the American Schoolboys' Tour.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: As a "fond parent" having a boy among those who are in the American Schoolboys' Tour, I congratulate you upon your account in THE SUN of July 22. I find your report much more comprehensive than any other.

There are a great many friends and relatives of the American schoolboys who will be interested in daily reports of their doings, and I hope you may continue the reports from day to day during the trip.

July 4, on the steamer en route, the boys were divided into four squads, and my son, David Stuart Cray, was elected captain of the first squad and went out in the games between the various squads, including climbing, relay races, high jumps, etc.  
J. D. CRAY,  
NEW YORK, July 24.

**ANIMAL PERSONALITY.**

Are Patrons of the Carrousel Convinced of Commonly Imputed "Traits"?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: In the controversy on animal personality some years ago, namely, is there such personality conscious and subjective, or is it only an imputed personality, objective, imaginary, having to existence outside him, speculation, did anybody consider the topic of animal figures in the carrousel, popular merry-go-round? Possibly the theme has already been considered in laboratories of psychology, but I am not in current theories and beg more to submit my own deductions in the article: figured animals of the carrousel and reactive human impressions.

Take a typical merry-go-round menagerie: lions, prancing horses, quieter animals, the zebra, the camel, the ostrich, ostrich, every one perceives an immediate forcible illusion in what we morally denigrate the character traits at issue; ferocity in the lions, untamed impulsiveness in the zebra, and the pompous, volubly flattery in the giraffe and ostrich, impetuous buoyancy in the Bastrian camel. Well, then, question your ordinary mixed patrons of the carrousel, were they conscious and beg more to submit my own deductions in the article: figured animals of the carrousel and reactive human impressions.

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**CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.**

Some Caustic Remarks on Patriots with Other People's Blood.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The Senator in Washington are valiantly vociferating their unbounded patriotism and venting their vicious beligerency by advocating war with Mexico on the ground that the constitutional rights of American citizens dwelling within the borders of the sadly perturbed republic are not being upheld.

It certainly seems rather anomalous for these would-be shedders of other men's blood to be so solicitous for the constitutional rights of American citizens in Mexico and so regardless of these same rights in respect of citizens who are staying at home and trying to mind their own business.

These same Senators and Congressmen are responsible for a currency bill which would practically expropriate a large portion of the assets of the national banks and place the hands of a few politicians, and Government bonds, have seriously declined in price on account of unjust and repudiatory proposals incorporated in this same bill.

The Government is engaged in the pleasing business of running the express companies by extending the activities and scope of the parcel post. The Government is, of course, enacting in the press law which takes the hands of the taxpayers. Is this sort of competition fair and constitutional? Does it not involve the taking of property without due process of law?

Like many other virtues, regard for constitutional rights should begin at home.

ALBERT R. GALLATIN.  
NEW YORK, July 24.

**STILL THE MIDNIGHT SIREN!**

An Appeal for Silence at the Cunard Piers.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Can't something be done to stop the awful blowing of the Mauretania and the other Cunard boat whistles when the ships are about to depart? The whistles of the West End is awakened out of its sleep, which is such a blessing to tired out people in this hot weather.

From 12.30 o'clock to 1.30 o'clock this morning the whistle was kept going, and a man living in Hoboken says that the noise from the whistle was just as bad over there.

A WEST SIDER.  
NEW YORK, July 23.

**AN OLD AUTOGRAPH ALBUM.**

A Collector of Signatures and Sentiments Who Helped His Friends' Invention.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Who in these eminently practical minded days cares for an autograph album? I have a document, brief, but effective, beginning with the formula of inspiration, "Pay to the order of," and adorned with figures not of speech but of penmanship.

Who would not rather have in hand a second John Smith's reliable sign manual than a manuscript poem by the laureate? Have we really gone forward or back since the salad days of our sires, the palmy days of the autograph album? Have we substituted sense for sentiment, or have we thrown away the tinsel without gaining compensation in sterling metal? Have we clipped the wings of hypocrisy by discarding the formula of inspiration, but pleasant to the ear and warming the heart, of old fashioned friendship? Or do we by whatever name smell as sweet?

From the dustiest mustiest junk in a second hand book shop I have recently acquired a stoutly bound album, its covers tooled in chased design and the name of the collector, the class numeral and the owner's name stamped on the gilt lettering of an ostentatiously ornamental front.

Some well known names are inscribed on its pages, and the vestigia of their owners' callow selves in the long ago are romantically interesting. I have been looking at the volume in its withdrawal of the veil from the habits of mind and manner rather than the individual personalities of an earlier generation.

A woman, I am told, has been looking at the volume in its withdrawal of the veil from the habits of mind and manner rather than the individual personalities of an earlier generation.

A woman, I am told, has been looking at the volume in its withdrawal of the veil from the habits of mind